EASTERN

F.O.
371

1948

PALESTINE

FILE No. 4

pp. 5605 - 5740

68547

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E 5605

3 MAY 1948

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Registry Number E5605/4/31

TELEGRAM FROM
Sir, A. Kirkbride
AMMAN

No. 281

Dated 2nd May

Received in Registry 3rd "

Palestine Truce.

Refers Foreign Office telegram No, 286.
Reports discussion with The Prime Minister and King Abdullah regarding the question of extending the truce to all Jerusalem.

Last Paper.

5598

(Minutes.)

Mr Walker
Mr Beith
Mr. May 5

References.

68547

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

? Palestine Desk
May 6

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

9/12/48

Next Paper.

5-606

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

Cypher/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM AMMAN TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir A. Kirkbride. D. 10.00.p.m. May 2nd, 1948.
No. 281.
May 2nd, 1948. R. 11.25.p.m. May 2nd, 1948.

Repeated to U.K.Delegation New York.
Bagdad.
Beirut.
Cairo.
Damascus.
Jedda.
B.M.E.O. Cairo.
Jerusalem.

E 5005
3 MAY 1948

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

GIANT.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram 281 of May 2nd, repeated for information to U.K.Delegation New York, Bagdad, Beirut, Cairo, Damascus, Jedda, British Middle East Office Cairo and Jerusalem.

Palestine truce.

Your telegram No. 286. E

You will have seen from my telegram 270 that prior to receipt of your instructions I had spoken to the King and Prime Minister about extending the truce to all Jerusalem.

2. When I received your message I went to see the Prime Minister and he admitted that he and the King had failed to convince the others of the wisdom of this step, Azzam being the main stumbling block. They thought a truce over all Jerusalem would affect their freedom of action after May 15th.

3. I saw Azzam this afternoon and after an hour's argument in which I had to overcome fantastic strategic considerations I feel I have convinced him that it is in Arab interests to secure a truce over the whole of the Jerusalem municipal area, and to hope that the truce would persist after May 15th. Azzam even came to

/the point of saying

the point of saying that if the truce survived the end of the Mandate it might be possible for the United Nations to send someone to take over the municipal area.

4. The three Arab nominees will be Fauzi Mulki, Trans-Jordan Minister for Foreign Affairs, Taqi El Din [grp.undec. ? Sol]h from Lebanon and Ahmad Hilmi from Palestine.

Foreign Office please pass to United Kingdom Delegation, Jedda and Jerusalem as my telegrams Nos. 25, 27 and 46 respectively.

[Repeated to United Kingdom Delegation New York and Jedda].

[Copies sent to Secretary of State for Colonies and to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for transmission to Jerusalem.]

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